

achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Evaristo "Kidane" Arce III for winning the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF MAC
JARAMILLO

HON. GILBERT RAY CISNEROS, JR.

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 2020

Mr. CISNEROS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of a man from my district and to mark, in his passing, both what we have lost and what we must refuse to lose as our country faces a great crisis. This man was not lost to the COVID-19 pandemic. But his memory almost was. Mac Jaramillo was born on March 10th, 1927 in Hanford, California, and died peacefully a few miles from his La Habra, California home on March 22nd of this year. Mr. Jaramillo was not a great statesman, not a wealthy man, at least in material things, nor was he any kind of dignitary except to his family, his community, and his church. I only learned about Mac from his children who reached out to my office asking for help in remembering him because in the midst of our public health crisis, Mac's family and friends were denied a funeral mass. They were nearly barred from his burial altogether. On April 7th, Mac, a man who was rich in friends and family, was buried by his parish priest and nine family members. The many more people who loved him and wanted to render their respects were denied that opportunity. That is why I felt the need to speak, so that an American who came from the humblest of roots, who carried himself with great humility and dignity, who sought little for himself, who served his country in the Second World War, and who not only exemplified the American dream but helped build and expand it for his children, could be remembered and honored. This is not then merely a gesture to a grieving family; it is a reminder of the great stock of which our country is made and how the example of men like Mac give us strength when we are called to answer our own challenges.

Mac's father and mother, Fortino and Sotera Jaramillo started their family in the State of Guanajuato where, like many other peasant farmers of the revolutionary era in Mexico, they had trouble feeding themselves between harvests. Like my ancestors, they sought greater opportunities in an Estados Unidos that was often hostile to them even as it profited from their labor and skill. The City of Hanford became their home, but they really lived across California's great Central Valley and out to its lush Central Coast. The seasonal rhythm of migrant farm work brought the family out of Hanford every March and down to the lettuce and bean fields in coastal Nipomo and Santa Maria. Then it was north to San Jose to pick cherries and pears. By August, the family would find work back in the central

valley grape regions and only return to Hanford in September for the cotton harvest.

The Jaramillos worked hard for little. Tough times in the 1920s became unimaginably harsh by the early 1930s as the country sank into the depths of the Great Depression and the winters left the children hungry. For the family, the winter of 1934, when the average temperatures in Hanford hovered in the low 40s, was the worst of the Depression. It was that year that the family lost Mac's youngest brother who succumbed to a combination of cold and influenza. But even in the face of such tragedy, the family carried on. For meager wages, they lent their backs to the agricultural colossus of the Central Valley that fed and clothed so much of the nation in those lean years. It was a system of work that cost Mac a formal education as he left school in the eighth grade to join his parents and siblings in the fields.

It was the body he developed in those fields that gave him the physical strength to carry his two brothers out of their bedroom during a 1941 house fire. The fire had engulfed their bedroom and the two brothers were already unconscious from smoke inhalation when Mac, a mere boy of 14, saved their lives without even a thought for his own. In the summer of 1945, Mac was inducted into the US Army. He served as an infantryman and a firefighter in the Second World War. Though he was garrisoned in Panama and never saw combat, on at least two occasions he showed his courage again fighting fires, first aboard a heavily laden ammunition ship and later rolling barrels of oil down the side of a mountain before they were engulfed in flames. Heroism and quick action in the face of fire seemed to be a theme in Mac's life. Even in middle age, when a neighbor's house was set ablaze by fireworks, he instinctively jumped into action putting out the fire and saving the house before the La Habra Fire Department arrived.

Like most men of his generation, Mac Jaramillo came home from the war with wider eyes and bigger ambitions. Building on skills he had acquired in the service, Mac no longer worked in the fields but as machinist running cotton gins. In 1955, he joined his brother Dave in La Habra, working first in a packing house, then in manufacturing plants in La Habra, Brea and Placentia. He purchased a Texaco gas station and ran it for three years. Until, with his GI Bill benefits, he decided on barber college. He worked in a variety of shops until founding his own barbershop in downtown La Habra. Then in 1969, searching for better benefits, and perhaps looking for something to distract him from the recent loss of his child Lucy Lita to Leukemia the year before, Mac started a new chapter. At the age of 42, he became a Teamster and drove RC Cola deliveries for 19 years until he finally retired to tend a modest garden of roses and fruit trees.

But Mac Jaramillo's real ambitions were always to be a faithful servant to his God and family. In 1956 he met and married his wife of 63 years, Lucina Quintero. Together they used his GI Bill benefits to buy a home in La Habra where they raised eight children. All eight children received their baptism, first communion, and confirmation in La Habra's Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, where Mac and Lucina were married and Mac remained a parishioner until his passing. The couple taught their children to revere God, protect the family, and

love their country. They also taught their children to seize opportunities. Mac and Lucina's proudest achievement was to see all eight of their surviving children graduate from La Habra High School and to watch two of them graduate from the California State University at Fullerton.

Mac Jaramillo left this world as the beloved patriarch of a large and proud family, he regularly entertained groups of 30 to 40 at Christmas and other holidays. Indeed, it is a great irony that this family man, this veteran of the greatest generation, this partner in America's post-war prosperity, who loved his church, his family and his community so much more than he loved himself, was denied a public mass and a large burial reception. He is survived by his wife Lucina, brother Greg, sisters Lita and Mary, children Carlos, Dona, Mack, Eileen, Inez, Joachim, Peter, Lucy, 24 grandchildren, and 23 great-grandchildren, seven of whom have followed in the patriarch's footsteps by serving in the Army, Air Force or Marines.

With this, we have tried to ease the hurt of this one family by helping to remember Mac Jaramillo and the life he led. I feel we all gain from learning about him. He isn't the kind of man who history will normally take note of. But if we can remember him and the millions like him who built the American and Californian dream out of the ruins of the Great Depression and the Second World War, if we can remember their courage as well as their kindness and humility, then how can we despair for our future. God bless Mac Jaramillo, his family, Our Lady of Guadalupe where he worshipped, his adopted city of La Habra, the people of my district, and the country we all love.

IN MEMORY OF ROBERT ELFORD
LIVINGSTON, SR.

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 2020

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, during this extraordinary period of national emergency with the Wuhan Virus, there is time to cherish the service of citizens who have made America great.

In South Carolina a true Southern Gentleman is Robert Elford Livingston, Sr., who justly has been recognized by the obituary below:

Robert Elford Livingston, 90, of West Columbia passed away Tuesday, April 14, 2020. He was born on September 18, 1929 in Columbia, SC to the late Gerhard Elford Livingston and Essie Culclasure Livingston.

He is a life-long member of Mount Tabor Lutheran Church, founder of Livingston Insurance Agency, and a founding board member of Lexington State Bank. His service to his state and country includes the South Carolina Army National Guard, where he retired as a Colonel. He was also a member and served in leadership positions on the Lexington District 2 School Board, State School Board, Boys and Girls Club of the Midlands Board, Glen Forest School Board of Directors, Columbia Convention Center Board of Directors, Independent Insurance Agents of America, Independent Insurance Agents and Brokers of South Carolina, Lexington County Planning for the Future, Board of Directors for South Carolina BB&T, Lexington County Water and Sewer Commission, River